

REMARKS

I. Status of the Application.

Claims 1-5 and 8-22 of the Application were pending as of the date of the Office Action.

In the Office Action, the Examiner:

- (a) Allowed claims 1-5 and 8-19;
- (b) Rejected claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as alleged being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 4,364,722 to Phipps ("Phipps") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,393,260 to Miler ("Miler") in further view of U.S. Patent No. 3,821,868 to Edwards ("Edwards"); and
- (c) Objected to claim 22 for being dependent on a rejected base claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the foregoing amendments and following remarks incorporated herein overcome the Examiner's rejections of the Application.

II. Applicant's Amendments Do Not Constitute New Matter.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claims 8-10 and to claim 22 do not add new matter to the Application. The Amendments to claims 8-10 are made to make claims 8-10 properly depend from claim 1. As originally drafted, claims 8-10 depended from claim 6, which has been canceled. The amendment to claim 22 just incorporates the limitations of base claim 20 in order to rewrite the claim in independent form. Applicant respectfully submits that all the amendments are supported by the specification, as originally filed, and do not constitute new matter. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests entry of these amendments.

III. The Rejection Of Claims 20-21 Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) As Being Obvious Over Phipps In View Of Miler In Further View Of Edwards Should Be Withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 20-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) are now moot and should be withdrawn because Applicant has canceled claims 20-21.

IV. The Objection To Claim 22 Should Be Withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully submits that the objection to claim 22 is now moot and should be withdrawn because claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of independent claim 20 and no longer depends from a rejected base claim. As noted by the Examiner, claim 22 "is an allowable subject matter claim but depends from a rejected claim." (Office Action, p. 3). Applicant respectfully requests that claim 22 proceed to allowance, because claim 22 has been rewritten in independent form.

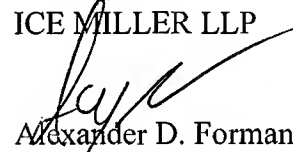
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CONCLUSION

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-5, 8-19 and 22 are allowable claims. Allowance of this Application is therefore respectfully requested. In the event Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for payment of any fees, Applicant conditionally petitions therefore, and authorize any deficiency to be charged to deposit account 09-0007. When doing so, please reference the above-listed docket number. If there are any other further objections, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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ADF